

Proposal to host ESBG11 at PermaLot Centre of Natural Building

The following is a summary of the proposed program and outline of infrastructure/team which has been available on our web for a couple of months for comments. We believe the program and pre-workshop, will serve to bring the ESBG back to the origin as seen at the ISBG05 and ESBG07, rather than the 'introductory course' format, which was experienced at the ESBG09.

A central focus will be to nurture and support the atmosphere, bonding and sharing which exists in the North American Natural Building circles; This will be facilitated by Jack Stephens of the Natural Building Network

Much can happen if our offer is accepted; this is what we know now we can do on our own. As outlined in the online proposed program, we hope your various national networks will actively contribute with the programming.

Why here?

- Czech Republic is central in Europe, and in a relatively inexpensive country, making the ESBG very affordable; also the expense of the journey for majority of participants, none-the-less the expanding group of Eastern European balers..
- Straw bale building in Czech Republic is in need of a boost; the ESBG can help provide this, much in same way as in Belgium in 2009. This will be further insured through PermaLot's affiliations, and members throughout the country.
- Central for our intentions is the journey here: 4 busses arriving from each corner of Europe, the passengers bonding and visiting SB houses on their way; also in other areas of Czech Republic. [More here](#)
- Our program is based on getting in depth with issues deemed necessary by the participants, and to establish future solutions for a world with fewer fossil fuels and increasing climate crises. [See program proposal here.](#)
- PermaLot Centre of Natural Building aim to be a vocational training center for South Eastern Europe after the Scandinavian 'Folk High School' model. The center demonstrates almost all natural building techniques already, and a few more will be in place if we're selected to host the ESBG11. [See here for details.](#)
- The site is a great inspiration of local sustainability. To many 'balers' SB is about holistic integration of sustainability: This location provides that; Commercial kitchen for organic products, shop, kindergarten, grey-water system, permaculture gardens, educational facilities, in and outdoor accommodation, animals, and a fruitful cooperation with the local community. Potentially we'll arrange a pre-ESBG workshop insulating the village community hall.
- We're experienced with arranging and hosting Natural Building Colloquia, and an annual national celebration of Natural Building. The ESBG will be bigger than any of these, which our team looks forward to. +We'll draw on the support of the Natural Building Network, and national diplomatic contacts of the Czech Green Building Council. Please look here for a [growing list of profiles of team members](#) and their roles, should the ESBG be in Czech.



Amount of people:

We strongly recommend an online survey to all previous participants of ESBG's, aiming to find a consensus of 'What is an ESBG?'. We currently believe that the aim of an ESBG should not be growth, rather involvement and quality. We also believe this can not be achieved with more than 120-140 participants, as experienced in Friland and Sieben Linden. This way it's a gathering of peers. Beyond that the ESBG becomes a conference; a guided tour for the majority, and lectures by the few. We recommend national celebrations or an international conference to satisfy the need of information dissemination to curious people; future peers.

Location:

3,5 hour East of Prague, whether you drive by car or train. 3 hours North of Vienna(A), 3 hours N-W of Bratislava (SK), and 3 hours S. of Wroclaw(PL). Nearest train station is Moravicany. We own 7 hectares of organic agriculture situated among rolling hills and beautiful forests. We're 20 min drive from Olomouc, the city in CZ with second highest amount of historical monuments and old buildings, only surpassed by Prague, but almost without tourists!